

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 14, after line 5, please insert the printed Sequence Listing submitted herewith.

Please delete the paragraph on page 4, lines 1-15, and replace it with the following paragraph. Deletions appear in ~~strikethrough font~~, and additions are underlined.

Examples of suitable marker substrates for collagenase are peptides provided with fluorescent markers or UV markers. Examples of marker substrates for enzymes of this kind are (7-methoxycoumarin-4-yl)acetyl-Pro-Leu-Gly-Leu-(3-[2,4-dinitrophenyl]-L-2,3-diaminopropionyl)-Ala-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 1), (C.G. Knight et al, FEBS Letters 296:263-266 (1992)), Dnp-Pro-β-cyclohexyl-Ala-Gly-Cys(Me)-His-Ala-Lys(N-Me-Abz)-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 2) (D. M. Bickett et al., Analytical Biochemistry 212:58-64(1993)); Mca-Pro-Cha-Gly-Nva-His-Ala-Dpa-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 3) (V. Knäuper et al., JBC 271/3, 1544-1550 (1996)); Mca-Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Val-Glu-Nva-Trp-Arg-Lys-Dnp-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 4) (H. Nagase et al., JBC 269/33, 20952-20957 (1994)); Dnp-Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Leu-Ala-Nva-Trp-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 5) (L. Niedzwiecki et al., Biochemistry 31:12618-12623 (1992)) (D. M. Bickett et al., Analytical Biochemistry 212:58-64 (1993); C.G. Knight, et al, FEBS Letters 296:263-266 (1992); V. Knäuper et al., JBC 271/3, 1544-1550 (1996); H. Nagase et al., JBC 269/33, 20952-20957 (1994); L. Niedzwiecki et al., Biochemistry 31:12618-12623 (1992)), or radiolabeled peptides.

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Please delete the paragraph on page 6, lines 9-12, and replace it with the following paragraph.

In one example of the method of the invention, the protein used is collagenase, the substrate used is type II collagen and the marker substrate used is (7-methoxycoumarin-4-yl)acetyl-Pro-Leu-Gly-Leu-(3-[2,4-dinitrophenyl]-L-2,3-diaminopropionyl)-Ala-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please delete the paragraph on page 10, lines 19-22, and replace it with the following paragraph.

A solution of 10 mmol/l (7-methoxycoumarin-4-yl)acetyl-Pro-Leu-Gly-Leu-(3-[2,4-dinitrophenyl]-L-2,3-diaminopropionyl)-Ala-Arg-NH₃ (SEQ ID NO: 1), (Bachem Biochemica GmbH, Heidelberg, Germany) in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (Riedel-de Haen AG, Seelze, Germany) was diluted 1 : 40 (v/v) with water.

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